

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

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FM AMCONSUL FLORENCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0716

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS FLORENCE 0107

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV SM

SUBJECT: SAN MARINO GOVERNMENT CRISIS

REF: FLORENCE 0090 AND A-12 AND PREVIOUS.

1. THE SAN MARINO GRAND AND GENERAL COUNCIL (PARLIAMENT) APPROVED ON MARCH 27 A NEW GOVERNMENT COALITION MADE UP OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SOCIALISTS AND THE MOVMENT FOR STATUTORY LIBERTY (MSL) A SMALL LEFTIST FRINGE GROUP THE NEW CONGRESS OF STATE (WHICH SERVES AS A CABINET OF SORTS) IS COMPOSED OF 7 CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS (INCLUDING FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER FEDERICO BIGI) 2 SOCIALIST AND ONE MSL THE COALITIONS FOR THE CONGRESS OF STATE WAS APPROVED WITH 33 SUPPORTING VOTES AND 26 OPPOSING (ONE DC COUNCILMAN WAS ABSENT).

2. IN SUBSEQUENT VOTES THE GRAND AND GENERAL COUNCIL CHOSE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS GIANLUIGI BERTI AND GIUSEPPE LONFERINI AS FOREIGN AND POLITICAL SECRETARY AND INTERIOR SECRETARY RESPECTIVELY AND SOCIALIST REMY GIACOMINI AS FINANCE AND BUDGET SECRETARY ALL OF THESE THREE TOP GOVERNMENT POSITIONS WERE APPROVED WITH 34 VOTES FOR AND 25 OPPOSING (IN THESE BALLOTS ONE COMMUNIST COUNCILMAN WAS ABSENT WHILE THE PREVIOUSLY MISSING DC COUNCIL MEMBER WAS PRESENT AND VOTING).

3. THE NEW FOREIGN SECRETARY BERTI HAS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS INTERIOR SECRETARY AND JUSTICE DEPUTY (SECRETARY) THE NEW INTERIOR SECRETARY IS NEW IN GOVERNMENT GIACOMINI IS THE NATIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARY OF THE SAN MARINO SOCIALIST PARTY WHICH HAD FOR THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS JOINED THE COMMUNISTS IN OPPOSITION TO THE DC SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MAJORITY.

4. STRICT PARTY DISCIPLINE WAS RESPECTED IN ALL VOTES THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SOCIALISTS AND MSL SUPPORTING THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNISTS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS OPPOSING THE RELATIVE STRENGTH OF THE SEVERAL PARTIES IN THE GRAND AND GENERAL COUNCIL IS AS FOLLOW CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS 27 SOCIALISTS 7 MSL 1 COMMUNISTS 14 AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS 11 TOTAL 60 MEMBERS.

5. BOTH BERTI AND LONFERINI ARE FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THE CONSULATE WE HAVE HAD LITTLE CONTACT IN THE PAST WITH THE NEW FINANCE SECRETARY GIACOMINI HE IS PRINCIPALLY KNOWN TO US AS HAVING BEEN A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF THE SAN MARINO COMMUNIST PARTY DURING THE LONG PERIOD IN WHICH THE SOCIALISTS WERE IN OPPOSITION. GORDON

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